

the right to seek the appointment of conferees, if it should become necessary.

I ask that you insert a copy of our exchange of letters into the Congressional Record during consideration of this measure on the House floor.

Thank you for your courtesy in this matter and I look forward to continued cooperation between our respective committees.

Sincerely,

FRANK D. LUCAS,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,
Washington, DC, September 11, 2013.

Hon. FRANK D. LUCAS,
Chairman, Committee on Agriculture, Longworth HOB, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 2166, the Good Samaritan Search and Recovery Act of 2013. As you know, the Committee on Natural Resources ordered reported the bill on June 12, 2013. I appreciate your support in bringing this legislation before the House of Representatives, and accordingly, understand that the Committee on Agriculture will forego action on the bill.

The Committee on Natural Resources concurs with the mutual understanding that by foregoing consideration of H.R. 2166 at this time, the Committee on Agriculture does not waive any jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in this or similar legislation. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on Agriculture represented on the conference committee. Finally, I would be pleased to include your letter and this response in the bill report filed by the Committee on Natural Resources, as well as in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

DOC HASTINGS,
Chairman.

CONGRATULATING SUSAN ELKINGTON

HON. LARRY BUCSHON
OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Susan Elkington on her selection to receive a STEP Award from The Manufacturing Institute. As she is a fellow Hoosier and an inspiration to young women interested in technical careers, I am pleased to stand before this body of Congress to recognize her contributions to Toyota, the automotive industry, Indiana, and her community.

Manufacturing is revitalizing our economy and making America strong. Investments in manufacturing, particularly in automotive manufacturing, multiply across the economy, creating jobs and growth in other sectors. Manufacturing is the backbone of our Nation's middle class. Today's manufacturing offers competitive wages, is high tech, safe, and offers great growth opportunities for women. Yet, over 80 percent of manufacturers still cannot find the skilled workers they need.

Part of this skills gap is due to the lack of women in the industry. While women make up 50 percent of the U.S. workforce, they make up only 24 percent of the manufacturing workforce.

STEP Award Honorees, such as Ms. Elkington, are attracting more women to manufacturing careers by educating young workers. By telling the real stories of these women, we can inspire and encourage the next generation of women to join the manufacturing industry and pursue exciting and meaningful careers.

Ms. Elkington has provided leadership and expertise at Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana in a variety of influential roles as she progressed to become Toyota's first female vice president of manufacturing for a vehicle assembly plant. She has been a key player in Toyota's success in Indiana from the beginning.

She joined Toyota as a manufacturing engineering specialist in 1998, serving on a team preparing for the start of production of Toyota Indiana's first vehicle, the Tundra full-size pickup truck. She rose through the ranks into the role of General Manager of Assembly and Stamping/Body Weld, where she oversaw numerous operations of Production, Conveyance, Engineering, Maintenance and new model preparation. She helped to plan and manage production of Toyota's Sequoia, Sienna, Highlander and the Highlander Hybrid models.

Ms. Elkington is committed to diversity and inclusion within manufacturing both at Toyota and in the State of Indiana. She recognized the absence of women in manufacturing early in her career. Consequently, she led Toyota Indiana's diversity and inclusion initiatives as diversity champion, and as Toyota's champion for the Society of Women Engineers.

I am thankful for the years of dedication and hard work by Susan Elkington, and I congratulate her for setting an example of professional excellence and advocacy of women in manufacturing, as well as her commitment to the greater community.

CELEBRATING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLÁN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Mr. SABLÁN. Mr. Speaker, most Americans would agree on the essential importance of education to a successful and meaningful life. But knowledge in and of itself is insufficient without a moral and ethical context for its appropriate application. Thus, the importance of Catholic schools, which we celebrate this week.

In the Northern Mariana Islands the Catholic schools of Eskuelan San Francisco de Borja on Rota, St. Joseph Catholic School on Tinian, and Mount Carmel School on the Saipan, have been the vanguard not only in educational excellence, but also in the inculcation of spiritual values. Graduates of these schools, who now fill every nook and cranny of leadership in our communities, carry both intellectual skills and a moral compass to their work in our society. We are all better off as a result. And, at least in part, we have Catholic schools to thank.

We have also to thank the parents of every Catholic school student. For, over the years, these parents have chosen to sacrifice, to de-

ploy their limited resources, to send their sons and daughters to parochial schools. Even as the quality of free, public education in the Northern Marianas has continued to improve—and I am sure that faculty and students in our fine public institutions would even proudly argue to surpass our Catholic schools—still have parents found something of extra value in those Catholic schools and continued to pay for their children to receive a Catholic education.

And we have to thank the religious and lay teachers in our Catholic schools. These women and men have chosen to forego material rewards of life in order to serve as the conduit for the moral system that underlies the academic content of their classrooms. Often among the best educated members of our community, rather than using their knowledge to advance their own interests these teachers disseminate what they know, so that many lives may be enriched. Their service and sacrifice, too, we celebrate and recognize during Catholic Schools Week.

Lastly, we congratulate the students in our Catholic schools. You are part of a heritage in the Northern Mariana Islands that we trace back directly to the founding of Mount Carmel School in 1952, but which certainly has its roots with the original Catholic missionaries of the 16th century. That is a remarkable tradition. One to be proud of, as you mark Catholic Schools Week, and to carry on.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, on January 27, 2014, I missed rollcall votes Nos. 24 and 25. My flight to Washington was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner:

Rollcall No: 24 "aye."
Rollcall No: 25 "aye."

IN TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE
ZLOTNICK

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, January 28, 2014

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize George Zlotnick as he reaches his 90th birthday. A member of our "greatest generation," George is a respected Connecticut veteran who participated in the last airborne deployment of World War II in Operation Varsity before embarking on a successful career in the construction industry.

As a young 19-year-old from Willimantic, Connecticut, George enlisted in the Army in 1943. Beginning as an infantryman before joining the Army Air Corps, George's dream of flying a plane became a reality when he was sent to the Pre-Flight Training at Teacher's College in Pennsylvania. After completing his training, George was sent to Germany on March 24, 1945, to participate in one of the largest airborne military assaults in America's history.